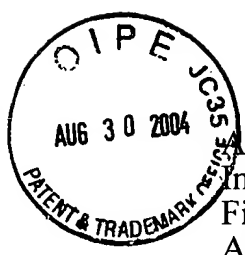


2/17/04



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.09/688,657
 InventorshipHernandez-Valencia
 Filing DateOctober 16, 2000
 Assignee.....Lucent Technologies Inc.
 Art Unit.....2667
 ExaminerDaniel K. Lam
 Docket No.18-1
 Customer No.....23,307
 Confirmation No.....1470
 Title: Mapping of Block-Encoded Data Formats onto a Byte/Bit Synchronous
 Transport Medium

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 29, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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 Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2004, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the "Listing of Claims" beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks being on page 8 of this paper.